

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-2 (canceled).

Claim 3 (currently amended): ~~Anti-friction coating~~ The bearing element as claimed in claim ~~12~~ 13, wherein the region of the phase boundary in which the solid solution or bond is formed has an average thickness in the range of between 0.1 μm and 3 μm .

Claim 4 (currently amended): ~~Anti-friction coating~~ The bearing element as claimed in claim ~~12~~ 13, wherein the matrix element is selected from a group comprising aluminum, chromium, copper, magnesium, manganese, molybdenum, ~~nickel~~, silicon, tin, titanium, tungsten and zinc, and the phase is a soft phase and the at least one phase element is different from the matrix element.

Claim 5 (currently amended): ~~Anti-friction coating~~ The bearing element as claimed in claim 4, wherein the proportion of matrix element is at least 55 % by weight.

Claim 6 (currently amended): ~~Anti-friction coating~~ The bearing element as claimed in claim ~~12~~ 13, wherein the phase is a soft phase and the at least one phase element is at least one element selected from an element group comprising silver, ~~aluminium~~ aluminum, gold, bismuth, ~~graphite~~, calcium, copper, indium, magnesium, lead, ~~palladium~~, ~~platinum~~, ~~scandium~~, tin, ~~yttrium~~, and zinc ~~and lanthanoids~~, and the at least one phase element is different from the matrix element.

Claim 7 (currently amended): ~~Anti-friction coating~~ The bearing element as claimed in claim ~~12~~ 13, wherein the phase is a ~~soft phase~~ lubricant and the at least one phase element is selected from a group comprising MoS₂, PTFE, silicone, barium sulphate and mixtures thereof.

Claim 8 (currently amended): ~~Anti-friction coating~~ The bearing element as claimed in claim 6, wherein the phase is a soft phase and the proportion of soft phase is in the range of between 10 % by weight and 45 % by weight.

Claim 9 (currently amended): ~~Anti-friction coating~~ The bearing element as claimed in claim ~~12~~ 13, wherein the phase is a hard phase and the at least one phase element is at least one element selected from an element group comprising boron, diamond, cobalt, hafnium, iridium, molybdenum, niobium, osmium, rhenium, rhodium, ruthenium, silicon, tantalum, tungsten and zirconium, and the at least one phase element is different from the matrix element.

Claim 10 (currently amended): ~~Anti-friction coating~~ The bearing element as claimed in claim ~~12~~ 13, wherein the phase is a hard phase and the at least one phase element is selected from the group consisting of ZnS_2 , BN, WS_2 , carbides, oxides, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 11 (currently amended): ~~Anti-friction coating~~ The bearing element as claimed in claim 9, wherein the phase is a hard phase and the proportion of hard phase is in the range of between 3 % by weight and 25 % by weight.

Claim 12 (canceled).

Claim 13 (currently amended): ~~Composite material~~ A bearing element comprising at least a first peripheral coating and a ~~second peripheral coating~~ supporting layer disposed on top of said first peripheral coating, wherein the first peripheral coating is formed by an anti-friction coating ~~as claimed in claim 12~~ produced by means of a cold gas spraying process made from an alloy, wherein the alloy comprises a matrix element and at least one phase element, said matrix element forming a matrix and said at least one phase element having a phase selected from the group consisting of a soft phase and a hard phase, wherein the at least one phase element forms a solid solution or a bond with the matrix element, wherein the at least one phase element is dispersed in the matrix and the solid solution or bond is formed only in the region of the phase boundary of the matrix with the at least one phase element so that the first peripheral coating is able to adapt and embed pieces abraded from parts to be supported.

Claim 14 (currently amended): ~~Composite material~~ The bearing element as claimed in claim 13, wherein an additional coating is provided between the first peripheral coating and the ~~second peripheral coating~~ supporting layer in the form of a diffusion barrier or adhesion ~~coating~~ layer.

Claim 15 (withdrawn): Method of producing a composite material comprising at least a first peripheral coating (8) and a second peripheral coating (9) disposed on top of it, in particular for anti-friction bearings or thrust washers, wherein an alloy comprising elements which form a matrix (2) and at least a soft phase (3) and/or a hard phase (5), which soft phase elements and/or hard phase elements form a solid solution or a bond with the matrix element, wherein the soft phase (3) and/or the hard phase (5) is dispersed in the matrix (2) and the solid solution or bond is formed only in the region of the phase boundary (4) of the matrix (2) with the soft phase (3) and/or with the hard phase (5) is produced as a first peripheral coating (8) by means of a cold gas spraying process.

Claim 16 (withdrawn): Method as claimed in claim 15, wherein the second peripheral coating (9) is formed by a supporting layer, made from steel for example, and the first peripheral coating (8) is sprayed on top of it.

Claim 17 (withdrawn): Method as claimed in claim 15, wherein an additional coating is provided between the first peripheral coating (8) and the second peripheral coating (9) in

the form of a diffusion barrier or adhesion coating and it is sprayed on top of the second peripheral coating (9).

Claim 18 (withdrawn): Method as claimed in claim 15, wherein the process gas is selected from a group comprising helium, argon, nitrogen, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 19 (withdrawn): Method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the gas temperature is selected from a range of between 60% and 95 % of the melting temperature of the alloy element with the lowest melting temperature.

Claim 20 (withdrawn): Method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the gas temperature is selected from a range of between 65% and 90%, preferably between 70% and 85%, of the melting temperature of the alloy element with the lowest melting temperature.

Claim 21 (withdrawn): Method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the gas temperature is selected from a range of between 95% and 130% of the melting temperature of the alloy element with the lowest melting temperature.

Claim 22 (withdrawn): Method as claimed in claim 15, wherein a separate cold gas spraying system is provided for each alloy element used and for each phase.

Claim 23 (withdrawn): Method as claimed in claim 15, wherein the initial powder used for spraying has a particle diameter in the range of from 3 μm to 70 μm , preferably from 5 μm to 55 μm .

Claims 24-26 (canceled).